

REMARKS

This PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT accompanies the filing of a divisional application, filed under 37 CFR 1.153(b).

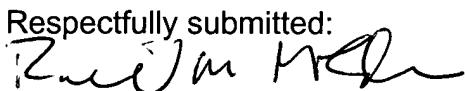
The amendment cancels claims that appear in the parent application, Ser. No. 09/921,671 that were elected pursuant to a restriction requirement imposed in that application, leaving the non-elected subject matter of claims 1-4 for examination in this divisional application. Accordingly, It is requested that the amendment be entered prior to calculating the filing fee for the application.

As prescribed by the Rules of Practice, the power of attorney granted in the original application carries forward in this application. The undersigned is one of the attorneys named in that power of attorney.

The assignment of the subject matter to TRW, Inc. carries forward to this application. That assignment is recorded at Reel 012061 Frame 0452 (2 pages), recorded August 3, 2001. By merger of TRW, Inc. within Northrop Grumman Corporation, TRW, Inc. assigned the interest in the subject matter to Northrop Grumman Corporation by assignment recorded in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at reel no. 013751 frame no 0849. Accordingly, Northrop Grumman Corporation should be listed as the assignee of the present application.

Claims 1-4 are in the application. Of those claims, only two claims appear in independent form.

Respectfully submitted:



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